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No. 59

# Flag Day Manual

*ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE  
AMERICAN FLAG*

By THOMAS J. McEVOY

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THOMAS J. McEVOY*



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# CONTENTS

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Flag Day as an Opportunity.....	1
Suggestions for Illustrative Charts.....	1
Suggested Program .....	1
History of the American Flag.....	1
Quotations for Flag Day.....	2
Recitations for Flag Day.....	2
Stand by the Flag.....	2
The Flag .....	2
Stream, Old Glory .....	2
The Red, White and Blue.....	2
Our Flag .....	2
The Little Soldier .....	2
The Battle Flag at Shenandoah.....	2
The American Flag .....	1
God Bless Our Stars.....	1
E Pluribus Unum .....	1
Old Ironsides .....	1
Union and Liberty .....	1
Declamations for Flag Day.....	1
The National Flag—Sumner .....	1
The American Flag—Beecher.....	1
The National Ensign—Putnam .....	1
Our Banner—Best .....	1
History of Our Patriotic Songs.....	1
History of Patriotic Salutes to the Flag.....	1

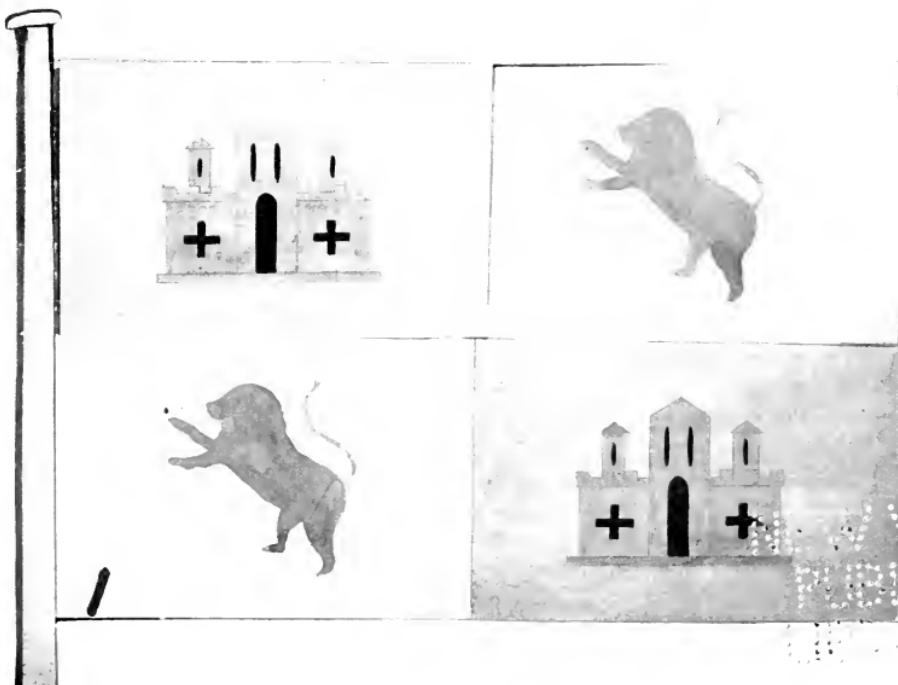
# Flag Day Exercises

## Flag Day.

No. 10 of Vol. I of the McEvoy Magazine was a Flag Day number. As original copies and reprints are out of stock, the material is presented in revised form. As a viewpoint then and now, an excerpt from the editor's page of June, 1909, seems pertinent.

"Out of the conflicting theories of the meaning of education there comes the accepted agreement that the American citizen must be equipped to satisfy the obligations of American life. The varying qualifications for this adjustment

may not be clearly defined, but still the American ideal is exact enough to direct our education toward the attainment of serviceable power of intellect, feelings and will. Under this conception of our ideal, I insist again that the Flag Day exercises be made worthy of intellectual appreciation. Use jingling rhymes if you wish, but let some of the better minds attempt to inspire the school by reproducing the words and the spirit of Sumner and Holmes and Beecher. Many of the thoughts may be above the comprehension of pupils, but the present



1. The Spanish Flag in 1492

effect will expand into fuller appreciation with the passing years in school and in active life. The emotions and the will cannot fail to respond in sympathetic action when the intellect is moved under such a stimulus. I have seen an audience of five hundred stirred to rapturous applause by an eloquent negro boy's speaking of Beecher's utterance that our banner is not a painted rag; I have seen a Brooklyn school moved to tears by a boy's delivery of the declamation, Foes United in Death; and I have seen veterans of the Civil War start from their seats in response to a young girl's recital of Custer's command in The Battle-Flag at Shenandoah. The same material, similar emotions, and a favorable occasion are ready to be utilized on the fourteenth of June."

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR ILLUSTRATIVE CHARTS.

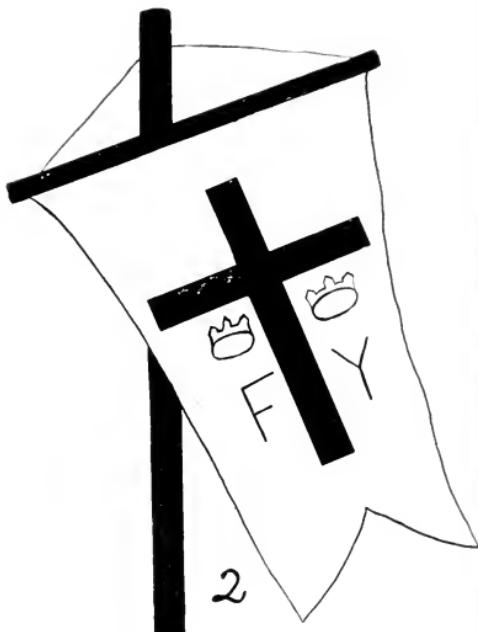
##### **History of the American Flag.**

This historical exercise will be more effective if the respective parts are illustrated by drawings on blackboard or charts. Charts are preferred because they can be kept for future use. Pupils enjoy making such drawings on account of the variety of colors, the beauty of the finished product, and the patriotic sentiment involved. Many histories have suitable models for copying. The following suggestions may be helpful in making the drawings:

No. 1. Spanish Flag in 1492. Flag divided into quarters; upper lefthand quarter and lower righthand quarter had golden castle upon red field; other quarters had red lion upon white field.

No. 2. Green cross upon white field; crown and F on left side of cross; crown and Y on right side.

No. 3. Blue flag, heads of three Turks



2. The Banner of Columbus

with red turbans; red line lengthwise through flag.

No. 4. White field with red cross; arms of cross extending full length and width.

No. 5. Similar to No. 4; crown and J R in center of cross.

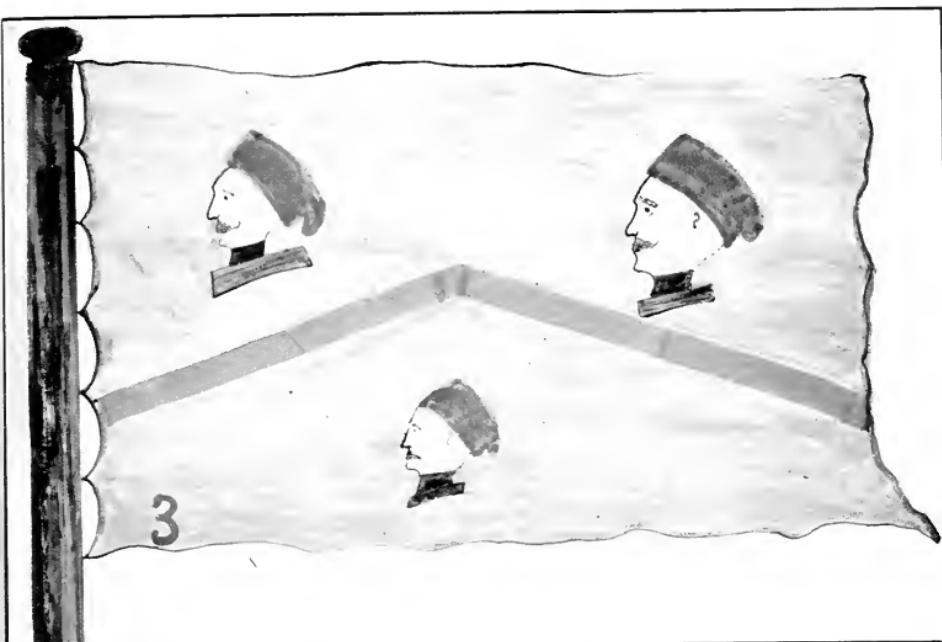
No. 6. White field; snake in thirteen segments; head and neck labeled N. E.; other segments in order, N. Y., N. J., P., M., V., N. C., S. C., G.; motto underneath, Unite or Die.

No. 7. Red flag; green pine tree upon white field in upper lefthand quarter.

No. 8. Blue flag; red cross upon upper lefthand white quarter; green pine tree in upper flagpole corner.

No. 9. White flag; green pine tree in center; An Appeal to Heaven at top.

No. 10. Blue flag; crescent in upper lefthand corner; Liberty across the bottom.



3. Captain John Smith's Turks' Head Flag

No. 11. Seven red stripes running whole length of white field.

No. 12. Coiled snake ready to strike.

No. 13. Another kind of rattlesnake flag; motto, Don't Tread on Me.

No. 14. Same background as No. 11; Union Jack, or crosses of St. Andrew and St. George, in upper lefthand corner.

No. 15. Same as No. 14.

No. 16. Background same as No. 11; thirteen white stars on blue field in upper lefthand corner; stars in a circle.

No. 17. Same as No. 16.

No. 18. Picture easily obtained.

No. 19. White shield, two red horizontal bars, three red stars; crown and raven above shield.

No. 21. Eight red stripes lengthwise across white field; fifteen white stars in five rows upon blue corner.

No. 22. Thirteen stripes again; twenty white stars upon blue corner.

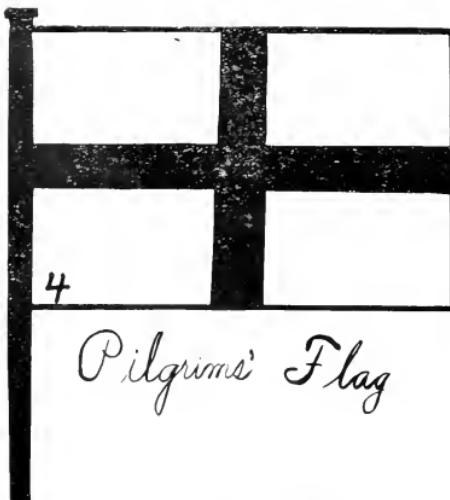
No. 23. A large American Fag.

#### SUGGESTED PROGRAM FOR FLAG DAY.

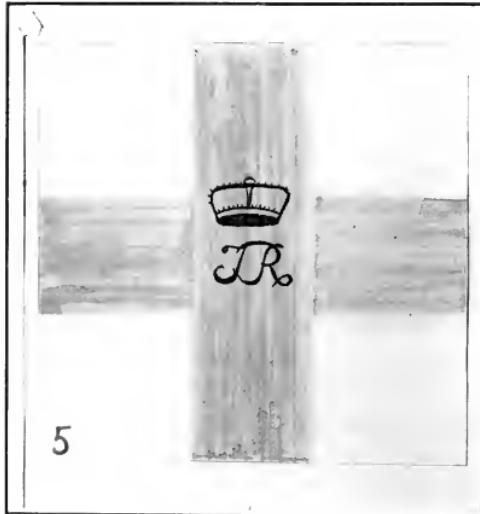
It is not probable that any one class or department will care to use all of the Flag Day material presented in this issued of the McEvoy Magazine. A tested program is printed on this page; time required, one hour. Other adapted selections may be substituted without destroying the unity of the exercises.

## THE PROGRAM.

1. SINGING ..... *School*
2. RECITATION—Our Flag ..... *Sangster*
3. CLASS EXERCISE—First Ten of Appropriate Quotations.
4. RECITATION—God Bless our Stars ..... *Taylor*
5. SINGING—Hail, Columbia ..... *School*
6. CLASS EXERCISE—History of the American Flag.
7. RECITATION—Stand by the Flag.
8. DECLAMATION—The National Flag ..... *Sumner*
9. PAPER—History of The Star-Spangled Banner.
10. SINGING—The Star-Spangled Banner ..... *School*
11. RECITATION—The Flag ..... *Riley*
12. DECLAMATION—The National Ensign ..... *Putnam*
13. RECITATION—Old Ironsides ..... *Holmes*
14. CLASS EXERCISES—Last Seven of Appropriate Quotations.
15. SINGING—Red, White and Blue ..... *Montgomery*
16. RECITATION—The Battle Flag at Shenandoah ..... *Miller*
18. DECLAMATION—The American Flag ..... *Beecher*
19. SCHOOL RECITATION—Union and Liberty ..... *Holmes*
20. FLAG SALUTE AND AMERICA ..... *School*



4. Pilgrims' Flag in 1620



5. Andros Flag in 1686

# HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FLAG

## Arranged for a Class Exercise

**INTRODUCTION.**—We honor our country's flag that tells us of glorious deeds and of great hopes. This flag that waves over every State in our Union; this flag that is saluted at every rising and setting sun in every fort or camp of the United States; this flag that protects the rich and the poor alike; "the flag with a star for every State and with all the stars for all the States;" this grand Flag of our Union which our soldiers have named Old Glory,—we honor it and salute it. Let us hear the story of this flag and the flags that preceded it in American history.

### 1. The Spanish Flag in 1492.

We are willing to believe that the Northmen discovered the continent of America long before the first voyage of Columbus, but it was through the efforts of Columbus, nevertheless, that America became known to the Old World. The standard of Spain in 1492 had the golden castles upon the red fields standing for Castile; and the red lions on the white fields representing Leon.

### 2. The Banner of Columbus.

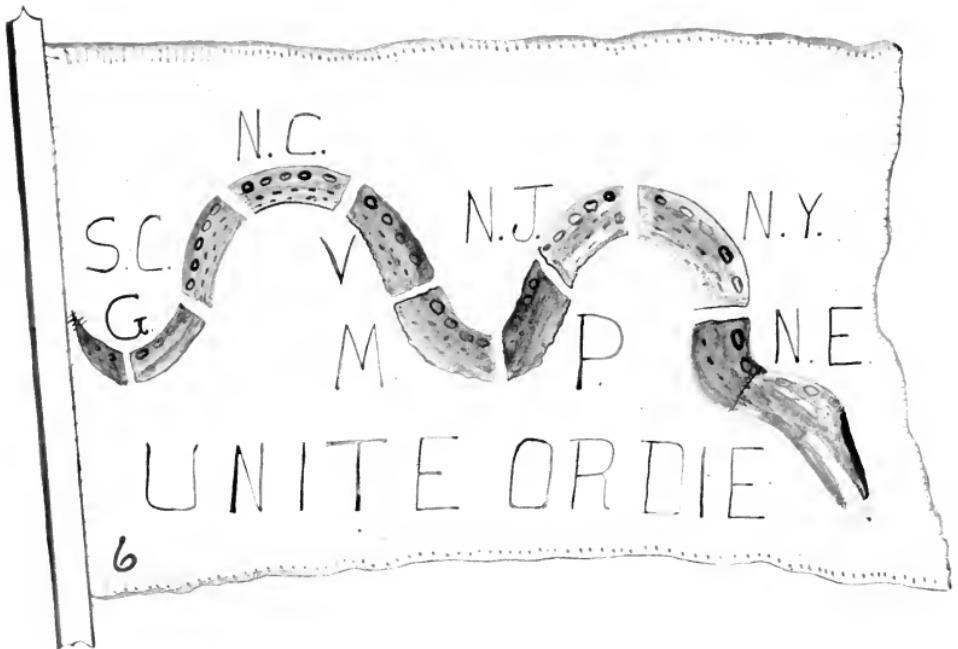
When Columbus landed on San Salvador, October 12, 1492, he carried in addition to the Spanish Flag the white banner of the expedition. Upon this banner the green cross stood for Christianity, green being the color of hope. The F. and Y. stood for Ferdinand and Isabel, the King and Queen of Spain. These were the first European flags that were displayed in the New World.

### 3. Captain John Smith's Turks' Head Flag.

The first permanent settlement in Virginia was made at Jamestown in 1607. There floated over that settlement not the flag of England, but the Turks' Head Banner of Captain John Smith, the one man to whom Virginia owed her early prosperity. Though he was himself fond of roving and wild adventure, he taught those early settlers the value of industry and regular habits of life. His flag, however, stood for nothing but his own past history. He had taken part in the wars between the Turks and the Christians in southwestern Europe. One day while the Christians were besieging a town, a Turk rode out and challenged any Christian to fight in mortal combat, for the amusement of the ladies. Smith accepted the challenge, and killed the Turk, as he did another the next day, and then a third. For this success he was granted a coat of arms bearing three Turks' heads in a shield. The historic value of this flag is seldom considered, but the heroic efforts of Captain John Smith of Virginia are cherished in American legend and literature.

### 4. The Pilgrims' English Flag in 1620.

In bringing to your attention some of the principal flags that have been used in America since the landing of the Pilgrims in 1620, we present to you first the English flag, commonly called the "Cross of St. George," which was hoisted, without doubt, over the May-



6. Albany Convention Flag, 1754

flower when our Pilgrim fathers disembarked at Plymouth. It was the sea ensign of English ships of that period. Why St. George was considered the patron saint of England is still unknown; but "St. George for England" and "Merrie England" were common war cries, and St. George's flag was above all others the national banner of England. We can well believe that to the Pilgrims this flag grew more and more precious as, day by day, their weary journeying bore them farther away from their England home and friends, and nearer to the untried western land of New England, which they were seeking. Their "love, their hope, their prayers, their tears" have made this flag a sacred emblem. It was the first signal of a new American civilization.

#### 5. Flag Used by Andros in 1686.

The New England colonies had a great

deal of trouble about their charters, the English government attempting several times to deprive the colonists of the rights already granted. At last, in 1686, Sir Edmund Andros was sent out for this very purpose, and was authorized to act as royal governor for all New England. He came with great show and display, glittering in scarlet and lace. His flag was the royal cross of England; and as a symbol of greater authority and warning, this flag also bore the representation of the King's crown and the initials J. R., Jacobus Rex, meaning James, King of England.

#### 6. Albany Convention Flag, 1754.

In 1754 twenty-five representatives of the English colonies in America met in Albany, N. Y., to form an alliance with 150 Indian chiefs who represented the Six Nations of Indians. At that con-

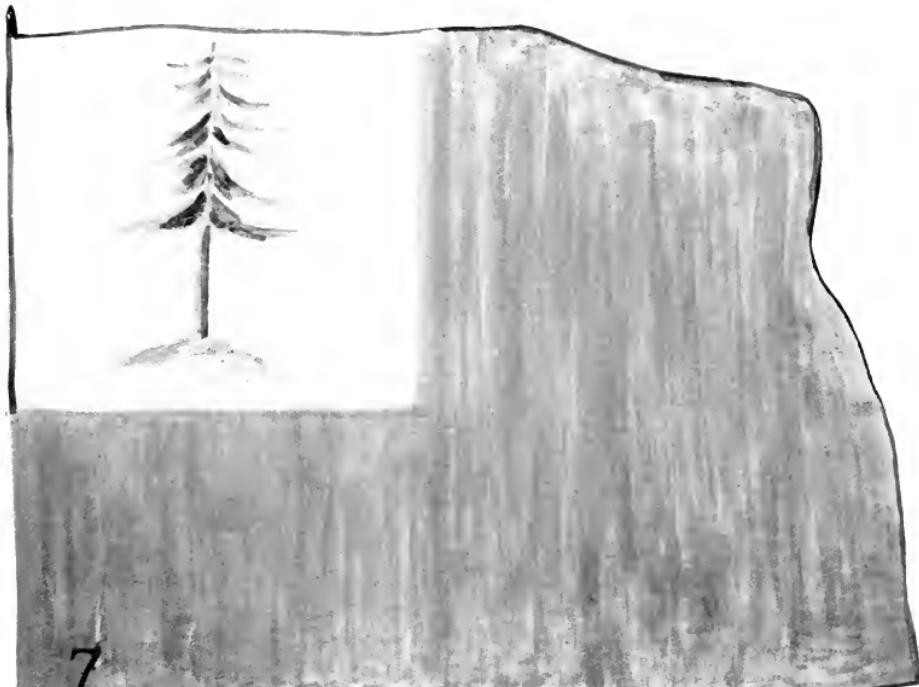
vention Benjamin Franklin proposed to the delegates a plan of union. Before he left home he had printed in his newspaper at Philadelphia a wood cut representing a snake cut into thirteen separate pieces to represent the colonies, each piece having upon it the initial letter of the name of some colony and the inscription appearing beneath, "Unite or Die." This design was afterwards used as a flag. The convention agreed upon a plan of union, but the colonies rejected it, as they were not able to see the necessity of such union at that time.

#### 7. Massachusetts Flag of War.

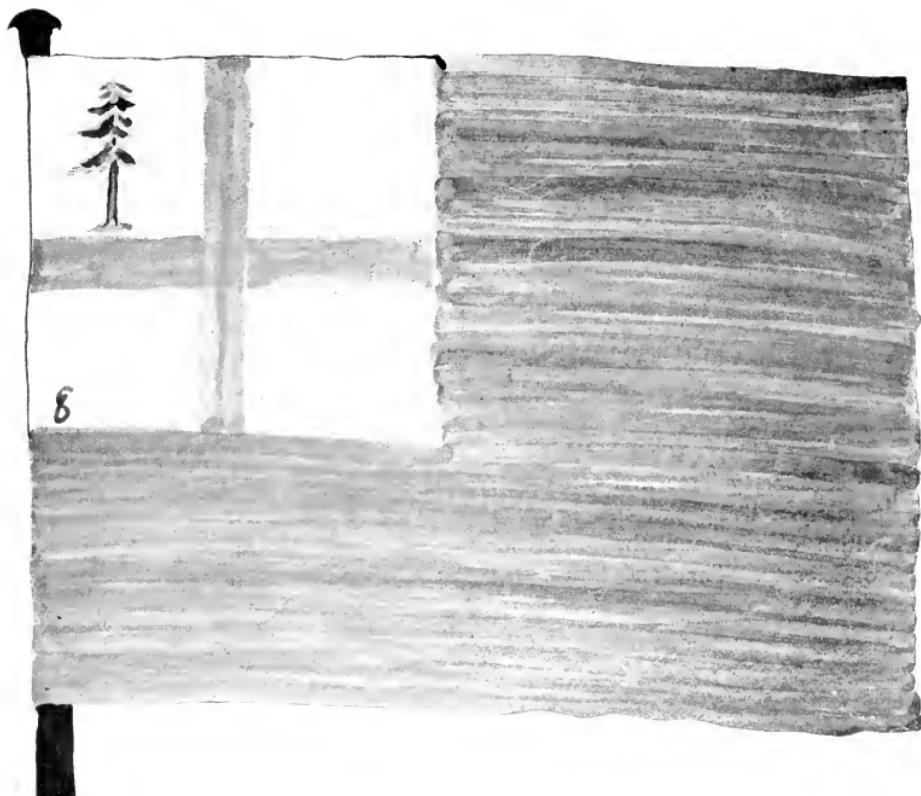
The Old Liberty Tree in Boston witnessed many a lively skirmish between the British officers and the American Sons of Liberty. Time and time again

the Red Coats cut down the liberty pole, which the boys duly replaced each time with growing resentment in their hearts. The ground underneath the tree was called Liberty Hall, and here, during the summer 1765, the colonists held meetings which decided their course towards the British. In June, 1768, a red flag was hoisted upon the liberty pole and a paper stuck upon it inviting the people to rise and clear the country of the British commissioners and their officers.

This flag was the symbol of defiance, and, when its folds were flung to the breeze, war began. When Putnam's men marched forth that starlit night from Boston towards the dark heights of Bunker Hill to defy the British, they chose this sort of flag and they meant war.



7. Massachusetts Flag of War



8. Revolutionary Flag

#### 8. Revolutionary Flag.

It is not known just what kind of field flag, if any, was used on the 17th of June at the Battle of Bunker Hill. One thing is sure, the British captured none. An intelligent old lady, Mrs. Manning, declares that her father, who was in the battle, assisted in hoisting the standard, and she heard him speak of it as a noble flag, the ground of which was blue. The field in the corner was quartered by the red Cross of St. George, and in one section of it was a pine tree. Various other banners were used, bearing the mottoes

"An appeal to heaven," "Liberty or Death," "Liberty and Union," and other similar legends. During the earlier part of the war the patriots, considering themselves British subjects fighting to secure their rights and not separation from their fatherland, were led by the emblem under which their fathers had gained so much of constitutional liberty at home; but as the war progressed, and the patriots became more and more convinced that separation must be the final issue, the desire for a distinctively American flag increased.



9. The Pine Tree Flag

## 9. The Pine Tree Flag.

Commodore Samuel Tucker, in a letter addressed to Hon. John Holmes, writes thus:

"The first cruise I made in January, 1776, in the schooner 'Franklin,' equipped by order of General Washington, my wife made the banner I fought under—the field of it was white, and therein was, in green, the figure of a pine tree. The cloth for the flag was of her own purchasing, at her own expense.

The pine tree flag was in general use during the years 1775-6 as the common ensign.

The Massachusetts Council in April, 1776, passed a series of resolutions, providing for the regulation of the sea service, among which was the following:

*Resolved*, That the uniform of the officers be green and white, and that they furnish themselves accordingly, and that the colors be a white flag with a green pine tree, and the inscription, "An Appeal to Heaven."

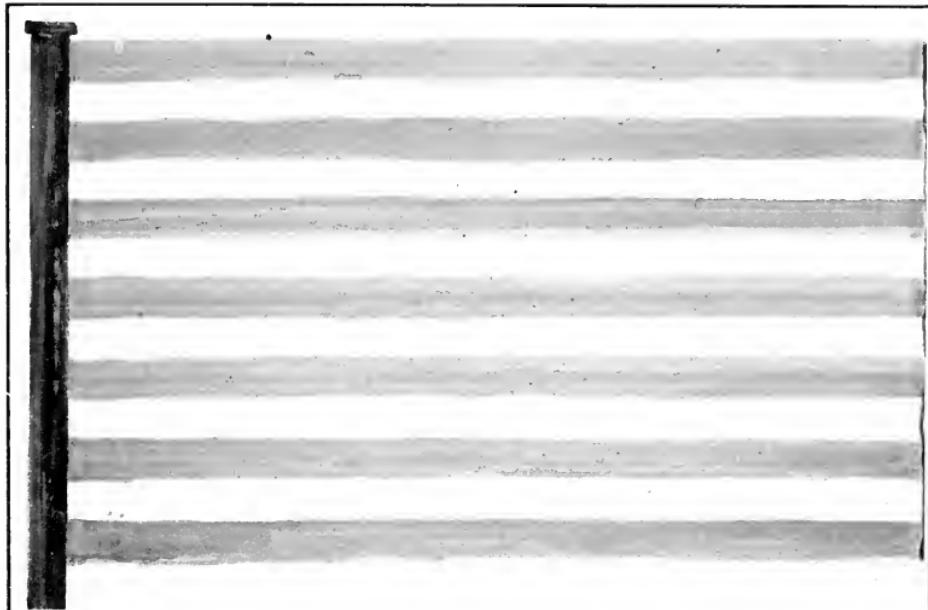


10. Liberty Flag of South Carolina

**10. Liberty Flag of South Carolina.**

Colonel Moultrie received an order on the 13th of September, 1775, from the Council of Safety for taking Fort Johnson on James Island, South Carolina, and a flag being thought necessary, Colonel Moultrie was requested by the Council to procure one. He had a large

blue flag made, with a crescent in the corner, to be uniform with the troops of the garrison, who were clothed in blue and wore silver crescents on the front of their caps, inscribed "Liberty or Death." In this flag the blue signified steadfastness; the crescent, increasing hope, and the motto showed the determination of the patriots.



II. Pennsylvania Flag

**II. Flag of Thirteen Stripes in Pennsylvania.**

A colonial flag of thirteen stripes, red and white, was displayed on many occasions, especially in Pennsylvania. A letter describing the departure of the American

fleet under Admiral Hopkins from Philadelphia, says it sailed "amid the acclamations of thousands assembled on the joyful occasion, under display of a Union flag, with thirteen stripes in the field, emblematical of the thirteen united colonies."



12. Rattlesnake Flag

**12. Rattlesnake Flag.**

As a curious feature of our national history, we present the rattlesnake flag used during the years 1775-6. The device of the rattlesnake was a favorite one with the colonists. It was thought that the rattlesnake was an emblem of vigilance and true courage, because, without

being quarrelsome, this serpent will not bear the heel of oppression. It never wounds without first shaking its rattles as a signal that it is going to strike. When it does strike, the wound, though it be small, is sure to be deadly and decisive. Woe to the enemy who dares to crush this inoffensive creature.



13. The Spirit of 1776

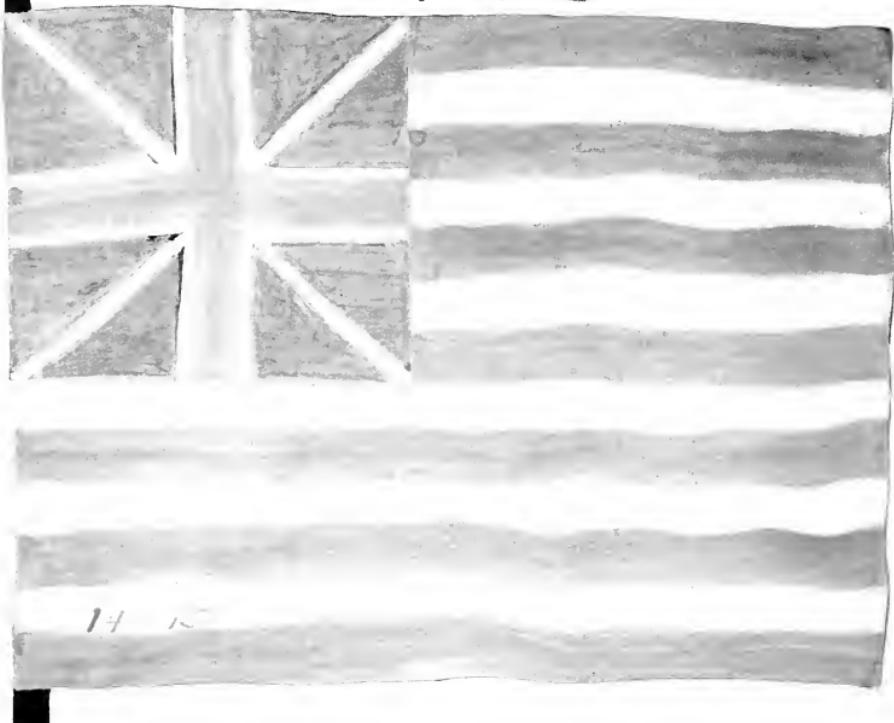
### 13. Summary to 1776.

The rattlesnake as a national emblem was borne on several flags. As an emblem of this sort expressed a defiant spirit, it failed to represent fully the attitude of the colonists. The highest purpose was in their conviction that they were united in a just cause, that they were striving for liberty, and that their appeal to heaven would be heard. Rattlesnake flags were, therefore, abandoned and the flag mottoes were changed

to indicate a less defiant spirit. Massachusetts said "Come if you dare;" New Hampshire stood for "Liberty, property and no stamps;" Connecticut said, "He who brought us over will sustain us;" and all began to uphold the sentiment of Liberty, Independence and Union.

Liberty in those days meant freedom from oppressive English laws—freedom such as other Englishmen enjoyed. Thus the early flags served as a definite purpose in expressing the growing sentiment of the American people.

1776



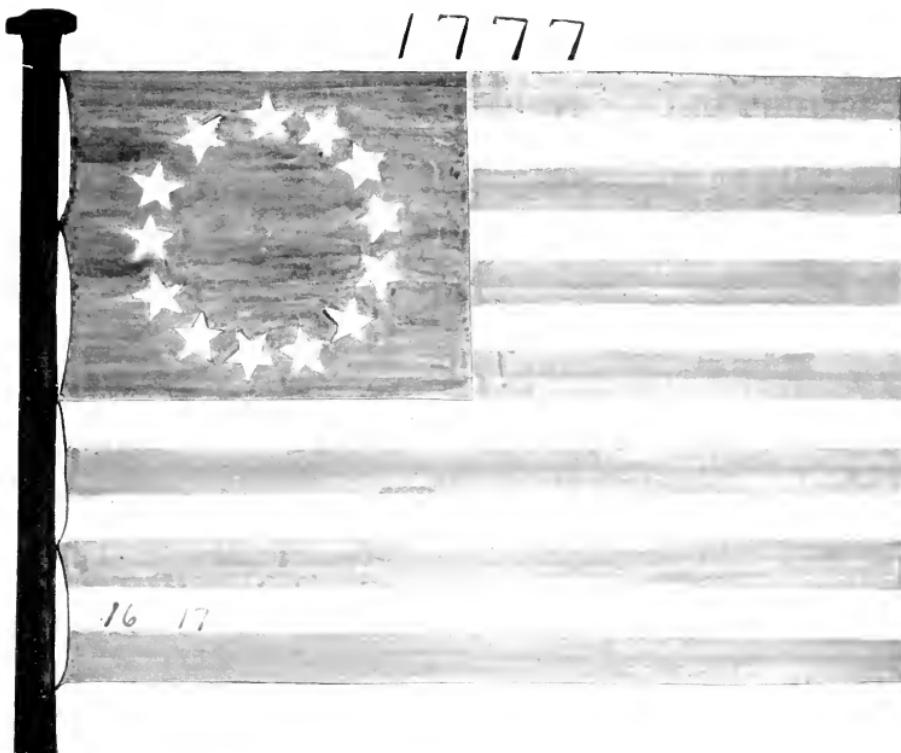
#### 14. Washington's Union Flag.

Still the necessity for a coming national flag had not been met until Benjamin Franklin, Mr. Lynch and Mr. Harrtson were appointed to consider the subject. They assembled at Cambridge, and the result of their conference was the retention of the King's colors or Union Jack, representing the recognized sovereignty of England, and the use of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, emblematic of the colonies united against the tyranny and oppression of England. This new flag was hoisted for the first time on January 1 or 2, 1776, over the camp at Cambridge, Massachusetts. For this reason it is called the Cambridge Flag.

#### 15. The Cambridge Flag.

The day the Cambridge flag was hoisted, General Howe sent copies of the King's speech to General Washington. The English authorities entertained great hopes of the effects of sending this message. Accordingly the hoisting of the Union flag and the discharge of thirteen guns that saluted it were hailed with great delight by the British officers, who supposed it to be a token of submission to the British crown.

Referring to these circumstances, Washington, in a letter to a friend, said: "The speech I send you. A volume of them were sent out by the British gentry, and we gave great joy to them without knowing it or intending it. For on that



day—the day which gave being to our new army, but before the proclamation came to hand—we had hoisted the *Union flag* in compliment to the united colonies. But behold! it was received in Boston as a token of the deep impression the speech made upon us, and as a signal of submission. So we hear by a person sent out of Boston last night. By this time, I presume, they begin to think it strange that we have not made a formal surrender of our lines."

#### **16. The National Flag.**

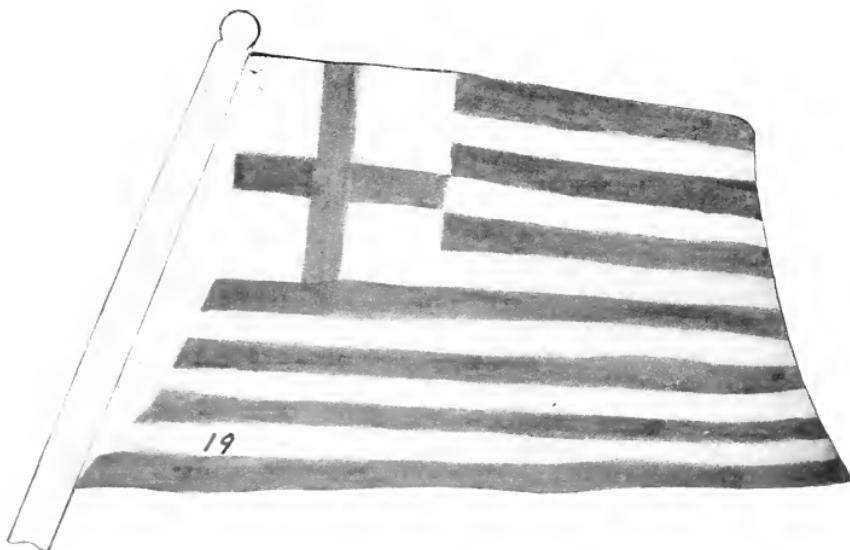
July 4, 1776, is the birthday of our nation, but the national flag was not adopted until the following year. On the 14th of June, 1777, Congress passed a resolution "that the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be

thirteen stars, white in blue field, representing a new constellation."

The flag of the United States was derived from the flag of the United Colonies in a natural manner. The old flag had expressed the hopes and aspirations of the thirteen colonies; the new flag expressed the determined resolve of the same colonies to form a perfect Union and to take their place among the nations of the world. They were no longer Englishmen; they were Americans.

#### **17. The First National Flag on Land and Sea.**

On August 6th, 1777, the Americans defeated the British at Fort Stanwix, near Rome, N. Y., captured five flags, hoisted them upside down, and far above all floated the first national flag—a flag made of a piece of blue jacket, some



19. Flag of the East India Company

strips of a white shirt, and some scraps of old red flannel. The first sailor to raise the national flag on an American warship was Captain Paul Jones, who took a small boat and sailed up and down the Schuylkill River, near Philadelphia, to show the new banner to the people.

#### 18. Betsy Ross and the National Flag.

"Betty" Ross, as she was familiarly known, was a widow living in Mulberry Street, Philadelphia, who supported herself and children by sewing. Being skillful, she gained a reputation as a seamstress. One day she was sitting at her window sewing on some white embroidered ruffled shirts which General Washington had ordered for that day. A detachment of raw Virginia troops had just passed, when a neighbor entered and said that Congress had decided without debate that morning on the character of the flag. She was interested in the news, but continued her work. Presently she was summoned to the door by General

Washington, accompanied by Colonel Ross, her husband's uncle, and Robert Morris. Washington told her, as soon as the men were seated, that they had decided on the character of the flag, and asked her if she could do the work, at the same time showing a rough drawing, giving dimensions and explaining that in the blue field in the upper left hand corner were to be thirteen stars. The proposed stars were six-pointed. She suggested that a five-pointed star would be easily made, and would be different from the six-pointed, which was English. Taking from her work-basket a square piece of cloth and folding it several times, with one clip of the shears she cut off part of it, unfolding the piece cut off, showed them a perfect five-pointed star. The men were satisfied and the order was at once given for the stars to be made with five points. Mrs. Ross was engaged for many years in making flags for the government, and she added considerably to her income by this means.

### 19. Origin of the Colors.

There is a resemblance between the colors and symbols of the national flag and the symbols borne on the coat of arms of General Washington. The earliest mention of the stars and stripes as the coat of arms of this illustrious family was by Lawrence Washington, Mayor of Northampton, England, in 1532. It is stated that in the red and



19. The Washington Coat of Arms.

white bars, the stars of the shield, and the raven, our early statesmen got their idea of the stars and stripes and the spread eagle as the national emblem of the youthful American republic. However this may be, it is evident from the flag of the East India Company that the red and white stripes were used long ago in England.

### 20. The Symbolic Meaning of the Flag

A member of the Flag Committee in the old Continental Congress wrote the following explanation of the origin and the symbolism of the Stars and Stripes:

"The stars of the new flag represent the constellation of States rising in the

West. The idea was taken from the constellation Lyra, which in the hand of Orpheus, signified harmony. The blue in the field was taken from the edges of the Covenanter's banner in Scotland, significant of the league covenant of the United Colonies against oppression, involving the virtues of vigilance, perseverance and justice. The stars were in a circle, symbolizing the perpetuity of the Union; the ring, like the circle serpent of the Egyptians, signifying eternity. The thirteen stripes showed with the stars the number of the United Colonies, and denoted the subordination of the States to the Union, as well as equality among themselves. The whole was the blending of the various flags previous to the Union flag, viz.: The red flag of the armies and the white of floating batteries. The red color, which in the Roman day was the signal of defiance, denotes daring; the blue, fidelity; and the white purity."

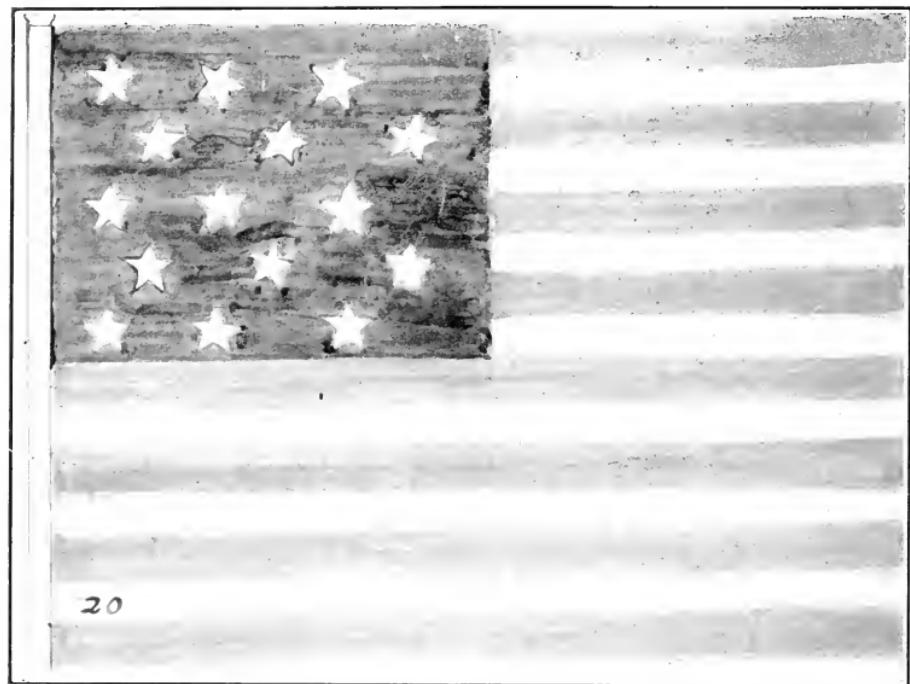
### 21. Flag From 1794 to 1818.

Vermont and Kentucky having been admitted to the Union in 1794, Congress voted that the flag be made of fifteen stripes and fifteen stars. This flag was carried during the second war with England in 1812-14.

This represents the Star-Spangled banner of which Francis Scott Key wrote.

### 22. Flag of 1818.

March 4, 1818, Congress ordered a return to thirteen stripes, and that the Union should display twenty stars, to indicate that five more states—Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana, Indiana and Mississippi—had been added to the glorious company of stars. It was also voted that each new state should be represented by



21. Flag from 1794 to 1818

a new star added to the grand constellation of our Union.

### 23. Flag of Today.

To-day we are privileged to bring you the honored flag of our republic, representing the history of more than a full century of national freedom. Upon its pure white border we write the legend, "Peace on earth, good will to men." Under its folds we know no North, no

South, no East, and no West; we have one united country.

The schools are our country's future; and as long as our schools are true to our flag and the principles it represents, our country will be safe. Let us, then, one and all, in the presence of this group of flags, which have, each in turn, borne upon their folds the fortunes of our republic from its birth to the present hour, pledge anew our allegiance to the flag of to-day, the crowning banner of our beloved America.

## Quotations for Flag Day

1. All hail to our glorious ensign.  
May it ever wave in honor, in unsullied  
glory, and patriotic hope.—*Edward  
Everett.*

2. Fidelity to the flag and what it repre-  
sents is the first duty of every loyal  
man and woman.—*Henry F. Howard.*

3. There are two things holy—the flag  
which represents military honor, and the  
law which represents the national right.  
—*Victor Hugo.*

4. We join ourselves to no party that  
does not carry the flag and keep step to  
the music of the Union.—*Rufus Choate.*

5. With patriotism in our hearts, and  
with the flag of our country in the hands  
of our children, there is no danger of  
anarchy and there is no danger to the  
Union.—*Wm. McKinley, Jr.*

6. I express it as my conviction before  
God, that it is the duty of every Ameri-  
can citizen to rally 'round the flag of his  
country.—*Chauncy M. Depew.*

7. If ever it is a question whether you  
or the flag must perish, you will instant-  
ly choose that it shall not be the flag.—  
*W. T. Sherman.*

8. Our boys and girls are to be trained  
to be Christian patriots, and then we are  
sure that they will be good citizens. We  
do not build on their learning, nor on  
their graces, nor their creed, not, God  
knows, on their wealth. No! We ask  
them to love their home because it is  
God's home; to serve the State because  
it is God's kingdom; and this is the

whole duty of man.—*Edward Everett  
Hale.*

9. Let your thoughts, too, dwell on  
the riches of our country and the bless-  
ings God has given this fairest land of  
the free. Hold ever dear in your mem-  
ories the names and deeds of those heroes  
who fought for it and shed their blood  
for it.—*Charles R. Skinner.*

10. I would be glad if there could be  
an American flag in every American home.  
There is inspiration in it. It  
has a story wrought into its every fold,  
until each thread has some lesson to tell  
of sacrifice and heroism. It is the  
promise of all that we hope for. It is to  
it and about it that we must gather and  
hold the affections of our people if these  
institutions are to be preserved.—*Ben-  
jamin Harrison.*

11. And what were the women of the  
United States in the struggle of the Revolu-  
tion? When the soldiers were desti-  
tute of clothing, or sick, or in prison,  
from whence did relief come? From the  
hearts where Patriotism erects her favor-  
ite shrine, and from the hand which is  
seldom withdrawn when the soldier is in  
need. The voice of our history speaks,  
trumpet-tongued, of the daring and intrepid  
spirit of patriotism burning in the  
bosoms of the women of that day.—  
*John Quincy Adams.*

12. If I had my way, I would hang  
the flag in every schoolroom and at-  
tempt to impress upon all the supreme  
value of their inheritance.—*Andrew S.  
Draper.*

13. "O country dear, whose record full of  
glory ,  
Brings tears of gladness into watching  
eyes,  
Whose deeds of heroes, handed down in  
story,  
Thrill human hearts with wonder and  
surprise,  
We pledge to thee our service and devo-  
tion,

To keep the rights by honored soldiers  
won,  
Long as thy shores are washed by either  
ocean,  
Thou fairest, greatest land beneath the  
sun."

14. "Of all the flags that float aloft  
O'er Neptune's gallant stars,  
Or wave on high in victory  
Above the sons of Mars,  
Give me our flag—Columbia's flag—  
The emblem of the free,  
And fling it out 'mid song and shout;  
The Banner of the Sea."

15. Behold it! Listen to it! Every star has a tongue; every stripe is articulate. "There is no language nor speech where their voices are not heard." There is magic in the web of it. It has an answer for every question of duty. It has a solution for every doubt and perplexity. It has a word of good cheer for every hour of gloom or despondency. Behold it! Listen to it! It speaks of earlier and of later struggles. It speaks of victories, and sometimes of reverses on the sea and on the land. It speaks of patriots and heroes among the living and the dead. But before all and above all other associations and memories, whether of glorious men, or glorious deeds, or glorious places, its voice is ever of Union and Liberty, of the Constitution and of the Laws.—*R. C. Winthrop.*

16. Our flag means all that our fathers

meant in the Revolutionary War; it means all that the Declaration of Independence meant; it means all that the Constitution of our people, organizing for justice, for liberty, and for happiness meant. Our flag carries American ideas, American history and American feelings. It has gathered and stored chiefly this supreme idea, *divine right of liberty in man*. Every color means liberty; every thread means liberty; every form of star and beam or stripe of light means liberty; not lawlessness, not license, but organized, institutional liberty; liberty through law, and laws for liberty. Our flag is not a painted rag. It is a whole national history. It is the Constitution. It is the government. It is the free people that stand in the government on the Constitution. Forget not what it means, and for the sake of its ideas be true to your country's flag.—*Henry Ward Beecher.*

17. All who stand beneath our banner are free. Ours is the only flag that has in reality written upon it Liberty, Fraternity, Equality, the three grandest words in all the languages of men. Liberty: give to every man the fruit of his own labor, the labor of his hand and of his brain. Fraternity: every man in the right is my brother. Equality: the rights of all are equal. No race, no color, no previous condition, can change the rights of men. The Declaration of Independence has at last been carried out in letter and in spirit. Today, the black man looks upon his child, and says: The avenues of distinction are open to you; upon your brow may fall the civic wreath. We are celebrating the courage and wisdom of our fathers, and the glad shout of a free people, the anthem of a grand nation, commencing at the Atlantic, is following the sun to the Pacific, across a continent of happy homes.—*Robert G. Ingersoll.*

## Recitations for Flag Day

### **Stand by the Flag.**

Stand by the Flag! Its folds have streamed  
in glory,  
To foes a fear, to friends a festal robe;  
And spread in rhythmic lines the sacred  
story,  
Of Freedom's triumphs over all the globe.

Stand by the Flag! On land and ocean  
billow,  
By it our fathers stood, unmoved and  
true;  
Living, defended; dying, for their pillow,  
With their last blessing passed it on to  
you.

Stand by the Flag! All doubt and treason  
scorning,  
Believe, with courage firm and faith  
sublime,  
That it will float until the eternal morning  
Pales in its glories all the lights of time.

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### **The Flag.**

The ocean-guarded flag of light, forever  
may it fly!  
It flashed o'er Monmouth's bloody fight, and  
lit McHenry's sky;  
It bears upon its folds of flame to earth's  
remotest wave  
The names of men whose deeds of fame  
shall e'er inspire the brave.

Timbers have crashed and guns have pealed  
beneath its radiant glow,  
But never did that ensign yield its honor to  
the foe;  
Its fame shall march with martial tread  
down ages yet to be,  
To guard these stars that never paled in  
fight on land or sea.

Its stripes of red, eternal dyed with heart-  
streams of all lands;  
Its white, the snow-capped hills that hide in  
storm their upraised hands;  
Its blue, the ocean waves that beat 'round  
freedom's circled shore;  
Its stars, the stripes of angels' feet that turn  
for evermore.

*—James Whitcomb Riley.*

### **Stream, Old Glory!**

Stream, Old Glory! bear your stars  
High among the seven;  
Stream a watchfire on the dark,  
And make a sign in heaven!  
Out upon the four winds blow,  
Tell the world your story:  
Thrice in heart's blood dipped before  
They called your name Old Glory!

When from sky to sky you float,  
Far in wide savannas.  
Vast horizons lost in light  
Answer with hosannas.  
Symbol of unmeasured power,  
Blessed promise sealing,  
All your hills are hills of God,  
And all your founts are healing!

Still to those the wronged of earth,  
Sanctuary render:  
For hope, and home, and heaven they see  
Within your sacred splendor!  
Stream, Old Glory! bear your stars  
High among the seven:  
Stream a watchfire on the dark,  
And make a sign in heaven!

*—Harriet Prescott Spofford.*

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### **The Red, White and Blue.**

Oh, flag of a resolute nation,  
Oh, flag of the strong and the free,  
The cherished of true-hearted millions,  
We hallow thy colors three.

Three proud, floating emblems of glory,  
Our guide for the coming time;  
The red, white and blue, in their beauty,  
Love gives them a meaning sublime.

The red is the deep crimson life-stream  
Which flowed on the battle-plain,  
Redeeming our land from oppression,  
And leaving no servile stain.

Thy white is a proud people's honor,  
Kept spotless and clear as light;  
A pledge of unfaltering justice,  
A symbol of truth and right.

Thy blue is our nation's endurance,  
And points to the blue above;  
The limitless, measureless azure,  
A type of our Father's love.

The stars are God's witness of blessing,  
And smile at the foeman's frown;  
They sparkle and gleam in their splendor,  
Bright gems in the great world's crown.  
—Montgomery.

### Our Flag.

Fling it from mast and steeple,  
Symbol o'er land and sea  
Of the life of a happy people,  
Gallant and strong and free.  
Proudly we view its colors,  
Flag of the brave and true,  
With the clustered stars and the steadfast  
bars,  
The red, the white, and the blue.

Flag of the fearless hearted,  
Flag of the broken chain,  
Flag of a day-dawn started,  
Never to pale or wane.  
Dearly we prize its colors.  
With the heaven-light breaking through,  
The clustered stars and the steadfast bars,  
The red, the white, and the blue.

Boldly we wave its colors,  
Our veins are thrilled anew;  
By the steadfast bars, the clustered stars,  
The red, the white, and the blue.  
Flag of the sturdy fathers,  
Flag of the loyal sons,  
Beneath its folds it gathers  
Earth's best and noblest ones.  
—Margaret E. Sangster.

### The Little Soldier.

"Oh, would I were a soldier!"  
Cried little Herbert Lee:  
"If I were only older,  
How very brave I'd be!  
I'd fear not any danger,  
I'd flee not from the foe;  
But, where the strife was fiercest,  
There I'd be sure to go.

"I'd be the boldest picket,  
Nor fear the darkest night;

Could I but see a traitor,  
How bravely I would fight!  
I'd nobly do my duty,  
And soon promoted be.  
Oh, would I were a soldier!"  
Sighed Little Herbert Lee.

"But when I'm grown to manhood,  
This war will all be o'er;  
I can not join the struggle  
Our dear flag to restore.  
I may not bleed for freedom,  
That glory's not for me;  
My name will not be written,  
The hero, Herbert Lee!"

Then answered Herbert's mother,  
In tender, loving tone,  
"My darling little Herbert,  
You need not thus bemoan;  
A noble strife awaits you,  
'Tis even now begun,  
And you may gain the victory,  
If brave and true, my son.

"You are a little soldier,  
A picket-guard, my boy,  
To ward off every evill  
That may your soul annoy.  
The noblest of all soldiers  
My little son may be,  
His name in Heaven recorded,  
The hero, Herbert Lee!"

—Union Second Reader, p. 197.

### The Battle-Flag at Shenandoah

The tented field wore a wrinkled frown,  
And the emptied church from the hill  
looked down  
On the emptied road and the emptied town,  
That summer Sunday morning.

And here was the blue, and there was the  
gray;  
And a wide green valley rolled away  
Between where the battling armies lay,  
That sacred Sunday morning.

Young Custer sat, with impatient will,  
His restless steed, 'mid his troopers still,  
As he watched with glass from the oak-set  
hill,  
That silent Sunday morning

Then fast he began to chafe and fret;

"There's a battle-flag on a bayonet  
Too close to my own true soldiers set  
For peace this Sunday morning!"

"Ride over, some one," he haughtily said,  
"And bring it to me! Why, in bars blood  
red

And in stars I will stain it, and overhead  
Will flaunt it this Sunday morning!"

Then a West-born lad, pale-faced and slim,  
Rode out, and touching his cap to him,  
Swept down, as swift as the swallows swim,  
That anxious Sunday morning.

On, on through the valley! up, up anywhere!

That pale-faced lad, like a bird through the air,

Kept on till he climbed to the banner there  
That bravest Sunday morning!

And he caught up the flag, and around his waist

He wound it tight, and he fled in haste,  
And swift his perilous route retraced  
That daring Sunday morning.

All honor and praise to the trusty steed!  
Ah! boy, and banner, and tell God-speed!  
God's pity for you in your hour of need  
That deadly Sunday morning.

Oh, deadly shot! and oh, shower of lead!  
Oh, iron rain on the brave, bare head!

Why, even the leaves from the trees fall dead

This dreadful Sunday morning!

But he gains the oaks! Men cheer in their might!

Brave Custer is weeping in his delight!

Why, he is embracing the boy outright  
This glorious Sunday morning!

But, soft! Not a word has the pale boy said.

He unwinds the flag. It is starred, striped, red

With his heart's best blood; and he falls down dead,  
In God's still Sunday morning!

So, wrap his flag to his soldier's breast;

Into Stars and Stripes it is stained and blest;  
And under the oaks let him rest and rest  
In God's own Sunday morning!

—*Joaquin Miller.*

### The American Flag.

When Freedom, from her mountain height,  
Unfurled her standard to the air,  
She tore the azure robe of night,  
And set the stars of glory there.  
She mingled with gorgeous dyes  
The milky baldric of the skies,  
And striped its pure, celestial white,  
With streakings of the morning light;  
Then from his mansion in the sun,  
She called her eagle bearer down,  
And gave into his mighty hand  
The symbol of her chosen land.

Majestic monarch of the cloud,  
Who rear'st aloft thy regal form,  
To bear the tempest trumpings loud  
And see the lightning lances driven,  
When strive the warriors of the storm,  
And rolls the thunder-drum of heaven,  
Child of the sun! to thee 'tis given  
To guard the banner of the free,  
To hover in the sulphur smoke,  
To ward away the battle-stroke,  
And bid its blendings shine afar,  
Like rainbows on the cloud of war,  
The harbingers of victory!

Flag of the brave! thy folds shall fly,  
The sign of hope and triumph high,  
When speaks the signal trumpet tone,  
And the long line comes gleaming on,  
Ere yet the life-blood, warm and wet,  
Has dimmed the glistening bayonet,  
Each soldier eye shall brightly turn  
To where thy sky-born glories burn;  
And, as his springing steps advance,  
Catch war and vengeance from the glance,  
And when the cannon-mouthing loud  
Heave in wild wreaths the battle-shroud,  
And gory sabers rise and fall  
Like shoots of flames on midnight's pall;  
Then shall thy meteor glances glow,  
And cowering foes shall sink beneath  
Each gallant arm that strikes below  
That lovely messenger of death.

Flag of the seas! on ocean wave  
 Thy stars shall glitter o'er the brave;  
 When death, careering on the gale,  
 Sweeps darkly round the bellied sail,  
 And frightened waves rush wildly back  
 Before the broadside's reeling rack,  
 Each dying wanderer of the sea  
 Shall look at once to heaven and thee,  
 And smile to see thy splendors fly  
 In triumph o'er his losing eye.

Flag of the free heart's hope and home!  
 By angel hands to valor given;  
 Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,  
 And all thy hues were born in heaven.  
 Forever float that standard sheet!  
 Where breathes the foes but falls before  
 us,  
 With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,  
 And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us?  
 —J. R. Drake.

#### God Bless Our Stars.

"God bless our stars forever!"  
 Thus the angels sang sublime,  
 When round God's forges fluttered fast,  
 The sparks of starry Time!  
 When they fanned them with their pinions,  
 Till they kindled into day.  
 And revealed creation's bosom,  
 Where the infant Eden lay.

"God bless our stars forever!"  
 Thus they sang, the seers of old,  
 When they beckoned to the Morning,  
 Through the future's misty fold,  
 When they waved the wand of wonder,—  
 When they breathed the magic word,  
 And the pulses' golden glimmer,  
 Showed the waking granite heard.

"God bless our stars forever!"  
 'Tis the burden of the song,  
 Where the sail through hollow midnight  
 Is flickering along;  
 When a ribbon of blue heaven  
 Is a-gleaming through the clouds,  
 With a star or two upon it,  
 For the sailor is in the shrouds!

"God bless our stars forever!"  
 It is Liberty's refrain,

From the snows of wild Nevada  
 To the sounding woods of Maine;  
 Where the green Multnomah wanders,  
 Where the Alabama rests,  
 Where the thunder shakes his turban  
 Over Alleghany's crests;

Where the mountains of New England  
 Mock Atlantic's stormy main;  
 Where God's palm imprints the prairie  
 With the type of heaven again;  
 Where the mirrored morn is dawning,  
 Link to link, our lakes along,  
 And Sacramento's Golden Gate  
 Swinging open to the song,—

There and there! "Our stars forever!"  
 How it echoes! How it thrills!  
 Blot that banner? Why they bore it  
 When no sunset bathed the hills.  
 Now over Bunker see it billows,  
 Now at Bennington it waves,  
 Ticonderoga swells beneath  
 And Saratoga's graves!

Oh! long ago at Lexington,  
 And above those minute-men,  
 The "Old Thirteen" were blazing bright,—  
 There were only thirteen then!  
 God's own stars are gleaming through it,—  
 Stars not woven in its thread;  
 Unfurl it, and that flag will glitter  
 With the heaven overhead.

Oh! it waved above the Pilgrims,  
 On the pinions of the prayer;  
 Oh! it billowed o'er the battle,  
 On the surges of the air;  
 Oh! the stars have risen in it,  
 Till the eagle waits the sun,  
 And Freedom from her mountain watch  
 Has counted "thirty-one."

When the weary years are halting,  
 In the mighty march of Time,  
 And no new ones throng the threshold  
 Of its corridors sublime;  
 When the clarion call, "Close up!"  
 Rings along the line no more,  
 Then adieu, thou blessed banner,  
 Then adieu, and not before!

—Benjamin F. Taylor.

## Declamations for Flag Day

### The National Flag.

There is the national flag! He must be cold, indeed, who can look upon its folds rippling in the breeze without pride of country. If he be in a foreign land, the flag is companionship, and country itself, with all its endearments. Who, as he sees it, can think of a State merely? Whose eye, once fastened upon its radiant trophies, can fail to recognize the image of the whole nation?

It has been called a "floating piece of poetry;" and yet, I know not if it have any intrinsic beauty beyond other ensigns. Its highest beauty is in what it symbolizes. It is because it represents all, that all gaze at it with delight and reverence. It is a piece of bunting, lifted in the air; but it speaks sublimely, and every part has a voice. Its stripes of alternate red and white proclaim the original union of thirteen States to maintain the Declaration of Independence. Its stars, white on a field of blue, proclaim that union of States constituting our national constellation, which receives a new star with every new State. The two, together, signify union, past and present. The very colors have a language which was officially recognized by our fathers. White is for purity, red for valor, blue for justice; and all together, bunting, stripes, stars, and colors, blazing in the sky, make the flag of our country, to be cherished by all our hearts, to be upheld by all our hands.

—Charles Sumner.

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### The American Flag.

A thoughtful mind, when it sees a nation's flag, sees not the flag only, but

the nation itself; and whatever may be its symbols, its insignia, he reads chiefly in the flag the government, the principles, the truths, the history, which belongs to the nation that sets it forth.

When the French tricolor rolls out to the wind, we see France. When the new-found Italian flag is unfurled, we see resurrected Italy. When the other three-cornered Hungarian flag shall be lifted to the wind, we shall see in it the long-buried but never dead principles of Hungarian liberty. When the united crosses of St. Andrew and St. George on a fiery ground set forth the banner of old England, we see not the cloth merely; there rises up before the mind the noble aspect of that monarchy, which, more than any other on the globe, has advanced its banner for liberty, law, and national prosperity.

This nation has a banner, too; and wherever it streamed abroad, men saw daybreak bursting on their eyes, for the American flag has been the symbol of liberty, and men rejoiced in it. Not another flag on the globe had such an errand, or went forth upon the sea, carrying everywhere, the world around, such hope for the captive and such glorious tidings.

The history of this banner is all on one side. Under it rode Washington and his armies; before it Burgoyne laid down his arms. It waved on the highlands at West Point; it floated over old Fort Montgomery. When Arnold would have surrendered these valuable fortresses and precious legacies, his night was turned into day, and his treachery was driven away, by the beams of light from this starry banner.

Let us then twine each thread of the

glorious tissue of our country's flag about our heartstrings; and looking upon our homes and catching the spirit that has fallen upon us from the battlefields of our dead, let us resolve, come weal or woe, we will in life and in death, now and forever, stand by the Stars and Stripes. They have been unfurled from the snows of Canada to the plains of New Orleans, in the halls of the Montezumas and the solitude of every sea; and everywhere, as the luminous symbol of restless and beneficent power, they have led the brave to victory and to glory. They have floated over our cradles; let it be our prayer and our struggle that they shall float over our graves.—*Henry Ward Beecher.*

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### The National Ensign

What precious associations cluster around our flag! Not alone have our fathers set up this banner in the name of God over the well-won battlefields of the Revolution, and over the cities and towns which they rescued from despotic rule; but think where also their descendants have carried it, and raised it in conquest or protection! Through what clouds of dust and smoke has it passed—what storms of shot or shell—what scenes of fire and blood! Not alone at Saratoga, at Monmouth, and at Yorktown, but at Lundy's Lane and New Orleans, at Buena Vista and Chapultepec. It is the same glorious old flag which, inscribed with the dying words of Lawrence—"Don't give up the ship!"—was hoisted

on Lake Erie by Commodore Perry just on the eve of his great naval victory—the same old flag which our great chieftain bore in triumph to the proud city of the Aztecs, and planted upon the heights of her national palace. Brave hands raised it above the eternal regions of ice in the Arctic seas, and have set it up on the summits of the lofty mountains in the distant West. Where has it not gone, the pride of its friends and the terror of its foes? What countries and what seas has it not visited? Where has not the American citizen been able to stand beneath its guardian folds and defy the world? With what joy and exultation seamen and tourists have gazed upon its stars and stripes, read in it the history of their nation's glory, received from it the full sense of security, and drawn from it the inspirations of patriotism! By it, how many have sworn fealty to their country.

What bursts of magnificent eloquence it has called forth from Webster and from Everett! What lyric strains of poetry from Drake and Holmes! How many heroes its folds have covered in death! How many lived for it, and how many have died for it! Wherever that flag has gone, it has been a herald of a better day—it has been the pledge of freedom, of justice, of order, of civilization, and of Christianity. Tyrants only have hated it, and the enemies of mankind alone have trampled it to the earth. All who sigh for the triumph of truth and righteousness love and salute it.—*Rev. P. A. Putnam.*

## History of Our Patriotic Songs

### America.

This was one of the earliest productions of the Rev Samuel Francis Smith, for many years pastor of the First Baptist Church of Newton, Mass. He was born in 1808 and died in 1895. It was of him that Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote the much-quoted lines in his "The Boys:"

"And there's a nice fellow of excellent pith—  
Fate tried to conceal him by naming him Smith—  
But he shouted a song for the brave and the free—  
Just read on his medal, 'My Country, of Thee.'"

Of his poem, Mr. Smith says, in a letter dated Newton, June 11th, 1861:

"The song was written at Andover during my student life there—I think in the winter of 1831-2. It was first used publicly at a Sunday school entertainment, July 4th, at Park Street Church, Boston. I had in my possession a collection of song books, from which I was selecting such music as pleased me, and, finding the hymn 'God Save the King,' I proceeded to give it the ring of American patriotism."

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### Hail, Columbia.

"Hail, Columbia" was written in 1798. In July, 1798, a war with France was thought to be inevitable; Congress was in session in Philadelphia deliberating upon its action; hostilities had already begun. England and France were at war, and the people of the United States

were divided as to which country should receive our support. Then, as now, there was talk of an alliance with Great Britain.

One day a young actor and singer, who was about to have a benefit at a Philadelphia theater, went to John Hopkinson, a popular lawyer of the city. He told Hopkinson that twenty boxes for the benefit remained unsold, and he feared the performance would be a failure; but the day might be saved if he could get a good patriotic song, adapted to the President's March, then a popular air. This, he felt, would pack the house. Would Hopkinson help him? The kindly lawyer said he would try, and on the day following delivered the manuscript to the actor.

It was announced one morning, and on that night the theater was crowded to the doors. It was continued night after night for the whole season, and was encored and re-encored, the audience always joining in the chorus. The enthusiasm spread, and crowds sang it at night in the streets of the Capital.

Hopkinson's one idea in writing the song was "to get up an American spirit which should be independent of and above party interests, passions and policy."

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### Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean.

There has been much dispute about the authorship of this national air. It is claimed as having originated in England, and having been sung under the title of "Britannia, the Pride of the Ocean." The English version is an adaptation of our song, which originated in America. It

s rather a singular coincidence that the two most important patriotic songs of America were written in Philadelphia, and both originated in the desire of a poet to help out an actor who wanted a song to sing at a benefit performance. The story of "Hail, Columbia" has already been given.

**COLUMBIA, THE GEM OF THE OCEAN,** was written by Thomas a Becket, Sr., and the story is given thus in his own words:

"In the fall of the year, 1843, being then engaged as an actor at the Chestnut Street Theater, in this city, I was waited upon by D. T. Shaw (then singing at the Chinese museum), with the request that I would write him a song for his benefit night. He produced some patriotic lines, and asked my opinion of them. I found them ungrammatical, and so deficient in measure as to be totally unfit to be adapted to music. We adjourned to the house of a friend (R. Harford, Decatur Street), and I there wrote the first two verses in pencil, and at Miss Harford's piano I composed the melody. On reaching my home I added the third verse, wrote the symphonies and arrangements, made a fair copy in ink, and gave it to Mr. Shaw, requesting him not to give or sell a copy. A few weeks afterward I left for New Orleans, and was much surprised to see a published copy, entitled 'Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean,' written, composed and sung by D. T. Shaw, and arranged by T. a Becket.

"On my return to Philadelphia I waited upon Mr. Willig, the publisher, who told me he had purchased the song from Mr. Shaw. I produced the original copy in pencil, and claimed the copyright, which Mr. Willig admitted, making some severe remarks upon Mr.

Shaw's conduct in the affair. I then made an arrangement with T. Osborn of Third Street, above Walnut, to publish the song in partnership; and within a week it appeared under its proper title, viz., 'Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean: written and composed by T. a Becket, and sung by D. T. Shaw.' Mr. E. L. Davenport, the eminent actor, sung the song nightly in London for some weeks: it became very popular, under the title of Britannia, the Pride, etc. I visited London in 1847, and found the song claimed as an English composition."

According to the English version, the song, under the title, **THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE**, is printed in J. E. Carpenter's New Naval and Military Song-Book, published in London, 1866, as "written and composed by D. T. Shaw, U. S. A." In the first line of the last verse the name of Nelson is inserted in place of Washington.

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### The Star Spangled Banner.

Oh! say can you see by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,

Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in the air,

Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

Oh! say, does the Star Spangled Banner yet wave,

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On that shore dimly seen thro' the mists o'er the deep,

Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes;

What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,

As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?

Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,  
In full glory reflected—now shines on the stream!  
'Tis the Star Spangled Banner! Oh long may it wave,  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore  
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion  
A home and a country should leave us no more?  
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.  
No refuge could save the hireling and slave  
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave;  
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph doth wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.  
Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand,  
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation;  
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land  
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!  
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto—"In God is our trust"—  
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave,  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

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If the statement accredited to the great Gladstone, that "National war songs are molders of a nation's character," be true, then to Francis Scott Key, the immortal author of "The Star Spangled Banner," the American people are under a debt of gratitude that grows greater with the passing years.

"The Star Spangled Banner" was written by Key on the night of September 13, 1814, while he and his comrades,

on board the cartel ship Minden, were watching the storming of Baltimore by Admiral Cochrane. Key had been sent with John S. Skinner of Baltimore to Admiral Cochrane to request the release of Dr. Beanes of Upper Marlboro, who had been captured at Washington.

The British admiral consented to release Dr. Beanes, but would not let the Americans leave the harbor, as he intended to attack Baltimore and did not want the information to reach the city ahead of him. The Minden was anchored within sight of Fort McHenry. From its decks the three friends watched the bombardment. It ceased before dawn, but it was impossible for the anxious Americans to see whether or not the fort had fallen. They waited daylight with painful silence and suspense. In the dim light of the morning they saw, through their glasses, the star-spangled banner yet waving in triumph over the fort, and soon learned of the defeat of the British. When the fleet was ready to sail, Key and his friends were released and returned to Baltimore.

It was during the bombardment, while pacing the deck between midnight and dawn, that Key composed the popular song, the first stanza of which expressed the feeling of thousands of eye witnesses to the scene. The rude substance of the song was written on the back of a letter. On the night after his return to Baltimore, Key wrote it out in full and read it to his friend, Judge Nicholson, one of the defenders of the fort. The judge was so much pleased that he had it printed by Captain Benjamin Edes. Samuel Sands set the type and distributed the first copies on September 21, 1814. Later it was sung by Charles Durang at a restaurant next door to the Holliday street theatre, Baltimore, to an assem-

blage of patriotic defenders of the city, and after that first hearing, it was nightly sung at the theatre and everywhere in public and private.

The flag of Fort McHenry, which inspired the immortal lines of "The Star Spangled Banner," was made by Mrs. Mary Pickersgill, whose mother, Rebecca Young, made a flag carried by the Colonists in the war of the Revolution. Its original dimensions were 40 feet by 29, but the shells from the English fleet and the destructiveness of time, reduced its length to 32 feet. It is still in a fair state of preservation, and is owned by Mr. Eben Appleton of Yonkers, N. Y., whose grandfather, Colonel George Armstead, was one of the heroic defenders of McHenry in 1814.

Following the civil war an additional verse was added in the south, but it never became popular. It ran as follows:

And war's clamors o'er, with her mantle  
hath peace  
Once again, in its folds, the nation en-  
shrouded;  
Let no fratricide hand, uplifted e'er be  
The glory to dim which now is en-  
clouded;  
Not as north or as south in the future  
we'll stand,  
But as brothers united throughout our  
broad land;  
And the Star Spangled Banner forever  
shall wave,  
O'er the land of the free and the home of  
the brave.

There have been other verses written, but they have never come into general use. In 1861 Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote a verse, which opened with these lines:

When our land is illumined with Liber-  
ty's smile,  
If foes from within strike a blow at  
her glory;  
Down, down with the traitor that dares  
to defile  
The flag of her stars and the page of  
her story.

The story as to how the words were fitted to music is related by Chief Justice Taney, a brother-in-law of Key.

"Key read the words aloud once, twice, three times, until the persons present were electrified by its pathetic eloquence. An idea seized Ferdinand Durang, who was present. Hunting up a volume of old flute music he impatiently whistled snatches of tune after tune as they caught his eye. One called 'Anacreon in Heaven' struck his fancy and riveted his attention. Note after note fell from his puckered lips, until with a leap and a shout he exclaimed, 'Boys, I've hit it!' and, fitting the tune to the words, there rang out for the first time the song of 'The Star Spangled Banner.'

Durang was born in Harrisburg, Pa. His father was a Frenchman and a fair musician.

The tune "Anacreon in Heaven" was composed by John Stafford Smith between 1770 and 1775 to the words by Ralph Tomlinson, president of the Anacreonic Society, which held its meetings at the Crown and Anchor tavern, Strand, London.

The father of Francis Scott Key was a Revolutionary soldier by the name of John Ross Key, and lived on a farm in Fredericks county, Maryland, where young Key was born in August of the year 1780. Francis was educated to the law and after being admitted to the bar he began practicing in Georgetown, Md.

He quickly made a reputation for being a hard student and eloquent speaker. It is said that President Andrew Jackson valued his opinion so highly that no matter of importance was acted upon by him without first having had a consultation with young Key, who was at that time only about 30.

Key wrote many other poems, and his book of verse published in 1856, a number of years after his death, which occurred in 1843, contains some good ones.

His remains were first placed in the Howard vault in Greenmount cemetery, Baltimore, but subsequently they were removed to Mount Olivet cemetery, near Frederick, Md.

Eighty-nine years after the siege of Baltimore, Sept. 12, 1814. "The Star Spangled Banner" was made the national anthem by order of the United States navy department, principally through the

instrumentality and persistent effort of several Philadelphia women. The navy department order directed that whenever the anthem is played all officers and men shall stand at attention, unless they be engaged on duty which will not permit them to do so. Previous to this order the fleets of other nations had heard "America," "The Star Spangled Banner," "Dixie" and many others, without knowing which really was recognized as the national anthem by this country.

France had its "Marsellaise," England its "God Save the King," and Germany its "Wacht am Rhein," but the American sailor had no official anthem which he could sing and know he was voicing the words dearest to his countrymen. Henceforth he may demand that proper respect be shown not only to the American flag itself, but also to Francis Scott Key's "Star Spangled Banner."

## History of the Patriotic Salutes to the Flag

This inspiring observance has become extensive and is rapidly increasing. It is not a military salute, made in obedience to the cast-iron requirements of military discipline, in which the heart may possibly not beat in unison with the movements of the hand, but rather one of the methods which an American citizen, proud of his country and its institutions, takes to express his thankfulness to Almighty God that he lives in a Republic where the people govern themselves, where the equal rights of every man before the law are acknowledged and respected; "where domestic peace is maintained without the aid of a military establishment;" "where every man may enjoy the fruit of his own industry;" "where every mind is free to publish his own convictions," and "where religion is neither persecuted nor paid by the State."

Thus far the Salute has been practiced principally by children in the public schools, but by recent adaptation to be sung or chanted, it will be more readily given by adults. This enables it to be introduced, as a patriotic doxology, into adult assemblages of any kind, religious or secular. The greater volume and impressiveness, with which song crowns the sentiment, will give even higher effect, although without the action that many adults are backward to attempt.

It is well that so many schools have thus been taught to reverence the flag. The school will thereby become the centre for the cultivation of patriotic emotions. The love for the flag, as the emblem of our liberty and power, will be developed in early years, and become intertwined in every fiber of adult man-

hood. The flag and the old school house will be remembered among the sweetest recollections of childhood, and the love of the starry emblem will become the most vigorous emotion of well-developed manhood.

Through this salute also the children of the Republic, its little citizens, express their sense of gratitude for and appreciation of the great privileges and opportunities which the system of education in the Public Schools, established and maintained by the State, freely confers upon and gives them.

Thus, citizens and little citizens, each with their whole soul, with one voice, heart and hand united, seek to indicate by this act their profound respect and love for, their loyal allegiance to and their honest pride in this free country of their birth or of their adoption, and its flag.

The original flag salute was written in 1887 by Col. George T. Balch, of New York. Observing that the schools filled with foreigners were densely ignorant of American principles, typified by the flag, he took this wise method of enlightenment and enforcement. After Col. Balch had made all his changes in the form, the salute appeared as now used, "We give our heads and our hearts to God and our country; one country, one language, one flag."

Francis Bellamy changed the wording of Col. Balch's idea to read: "I pledge allegiance to my flag and the Republic for which it stands: one nation, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all."

Several other forms of language were used in saluting the flag at San Francisco, where for the first time a whole

city—sixty public schools—united. (They now hold patriotic exercises on the last Friday of every month.) The children were marshaled in the school yards by trumpet calls. On the steps stood the standard bearer, flag in hand, usually a girl, and on her right hand was the trumpeter, a boy.

The standard bearer unfurled the flag, and at a signal hundreds of hands were raised in military salute. Then all said in concert:

"Our country's flag, flag of the free;  
We pledge our loyal hearts to thee."

Another school united in saying:  
"I give my hand and my heart to my  
country.

One country, one language, one flag;  
Bring forth the banner and let it rise;  
Cheer, O cheer, as it spreads to the skies;  
Hurrah, hurrah, for our flag's dear  
cause;

Hurrah for our school and our country's  
laws!"

Another form was, "We turn to our  
flag as the sunflower turns to the sun.  
We give our heads and our hearts to our  
country. One country, one language,  
one flag."

Various other forms of salute to the  
flag are used:

"I pledge allegiance to our country's  
flag and to our God: one nation, indi-  
visible, with liberty and justice for all."

"To my flag I pledge allegiance and  
our Republic of Equal Rights; and to  
our God: one nation, and one flag for-  
ever."

"To our country our allegiance we  
pledge; and to our Father in Heaven:

one nation, with equal rights for all; one  
flag."

"My allegiance is to our one flag."

In the public schools of Muncie, Ind., in connection with the Bellamy version, is added an eloquent inscription of grati-  
tude to the defenders who saved the flag.

In many schools the flag salute is given very seldom, often but once a year, in some cases not since Columbus Day. Teachers who are not most thoroughly patriotic omit the formality required. With the effective facility that the song salute affords, either with or without ac-  
tion, this disinclination need not interfere. In fact, the song is an awakening to better effort in study. The great Pestalozzi, the author of the inductive system of teaching, would, in his school, often call suddenly for a minute of song; with the happiest results of increased energy and freshness for study. Our al-  
legiance songs of joy in the rescued flag of freedom are an instant inspiration for better work. And while a spoken salute requires special effort (often re-  
luctantly attempted by adults, especially with action), a stirring song seems to sing itself, with inspiring joy. And the melody, lingering lovingly in memory, almost ceaselessly reminds of the patri-  
otic truth linked with it. Several forms of Song Salute to the flag appear else-  
where.

But whether sung or spoken, the salute to our flag, often given by every loyal voice, is a patriotic benefaction to each, and to the welfare of the nation.—*Acme Haversack.*

## E PLURIBUS UNUM

Though many and bright are the stars that appear

In that flag by our country unfurled,  
And the stripes that are swelling in majesty there,

Like a rainbow adorning the world—  
Their light is unsullied as those in the sky,  
By a deed that our fathers have done,  
And they're linked in as true and as holy a tie,

In their motto of "Many in One."

From the hour when those patriots fearlessly flung

That banner of starlight abroad,  
Ever true to themselves, to that motto they clung

As they clung to the promise of God.  
By the bayonet traced at the midnight of war,

On the fields where our glory was won—  
Oh, perish the heart or the hand that would mar

Our motto of "Many in one."

Mid the smoke of the conflict, the cannon's deep roar,

How oft it has gathered renown.  
While those stars were reflected in rivers of gore,

Where the cross and the lion went down;  
And though few were their lights in the gloom of that hour,

Yet the hearts that were striking below  
Had God for their bulwark, and truth for their power.

And they stopped not to number their foe.

From where our green mountain-tops blend with the sky,

And the giant St. Lawrence is rolled.  
To the waves where the balmy Hesperides lie,

Like the dream of some prophet of old,  
They conquered, and, dying, bequeathed to our care

Not this boundless dominion alone,  
But that banner whose loveliness hallows the air,  
And their motto of "Many in One."

We are many in one, while there glitters a star

In the blue of the heavens above,  
And tyrants shall quail, mid their dungeons afar,

When they gaze on that motto of love.  
It shall gleam o'er the sea, mid the bolts of the storm,

Over tempest, and battle, and wreck—  
And the flame where our guns with their thunder grow warm  
'Neath the blood on the slippery deck.

The oppressed of the earth to that standard shall fly,

Wherever its folds shall be spread,  
And the exile shall feel 'tis his own native sky,

Where its stars shall wave over his head;  
And those stars shall increase till the fulness of time

Its millions of cycles have run—  
Till the world shall have welcomed their mission sublime,

And the nations of earth shall be one.

Though the old Alleghany may tower to heaven,

And the Father of Waters divide,  
The links of our destiny can not be riven  
While the truth of those words shall abide.

Oh, then, let them glow on each helmet and brand,

Though our blood like our rivers shall run;

Divide as we may in our own native land.  
To the rest of the world we are ONE.

Then, up with our flag,—let it stream on the air;

Though our fathers are cold in their graves,

They had hands that could strike, they had souls that could dare

And their sons were not born to be slaves.

Up, up, with that banner,—where'er it may call,

Our millions shall rally around,  
And a nation of freemen that moment shall fall,

When its stars shall be trailed on the ground.

—George W. Cutter in  
*Burdett's Patriotic Speaker.*

## OUR FLAG

Our Flag! Would that I had the silver-tongued oratory of Grecian days! To me its crimson bars are ever a constant reminder of the life-blood gladly given by our fathers and forefathers, who fought, bled and died for our country. Its band of white, encompassed and shielded by the crimson; just as white light is a braiding and blending of the primal colors, so the blended virtues of patriotism unite to form the white flower of peace, baptized, if need be, with martyred soldier blood, but ever aloft and spotless. And the star-spangled corner of blue is just a bit of heaven's own infinity of celestial constancy of color to remind us of our everwatching Providence that guides us and holds us the United States of America.

I had occasion once to stand at the bier of a veteran of our war of the Rebellion. Not across the casket, but wrapped in loving folds about the still form within the coffin, was the American Flag, more eloquent than a mountain of flowers. I thought then, with the tides and cross currents of the myriad drops of foreign blood sweeping into America thru the gates of immigration, it were fitting that over the cradle of every newborn American child of purely American parentage, should be draped the American Flag, a symbol of protection, and around every coffined form of every loyal citizen of purely American extraction, should be wrapped our country's emblem. Need I warn you that with increased immigration and decreased American birth rates the need of such

flags will be less and less with the coming years? It is not necessary that we say to the foreigner within our gates, forget your own beloved flag and your own country's honorable tradition—we have his little children to pour in the hopper of our public schools, to turn out again in the grist of good American citizenship. And if you think because these are times of peace and prosperity, that since we are tending towards a universal peace policy and a sure abolition of war, since all the moral and religious forces of modern time are arranging themselves against war—if you think because of this there is no need of our chapter's work, let me lead your minds to another thought.

We stand before the world, pledged not only to perpetuate the memory of glowing tradition; not only to acquire and protect historical spots and erect monuments; not only for Revolutionary historical research; not alone to preserve Revolutionary relics and documents, but to carry out Washington's injunction in his farewell address to the American people—to promote the general diffusion of knowledge, to develop and enlighten public opinion; to afford young and old such advantages as shall develop in them the largest capacity of performing the duties of American citizens; to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to aid in securing for all mankind the blessing of liberty.—*May Hanson Best, Gloversville, N. Y., at D. A. R. meeting.*

# OLD IRONSIDES

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### STORY OF THE SHIP.

Old Ironsides was the frigate Constitution. She was launched at Boston in 1797, took part in the bombardment of Tripoli in 1804, and made a great record in the War of 1812, capturing many vessels. One of her most notable engagements was with the British Guerriere off the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Her good fortune was remarkable throughout her service. "She never was dismasted, never got ashore, and scarcely ever suffered any of the usual accidents of the sea." Consequently she became a great favorite in the popular mind.

One day, not long after Holmes's graduation from Harvard, he read in a newspaper that the Secretary of the Navy had issued orders for the break-

ing up of the Constitution, then lying at Charlestown harbor, near Boston. Immediately he wrote his stirring protest in the lines of *OLD IRONSIDES*. Throughout the country the press copied the poem, it met a quick response in the hearts of the people, the Secretary of the Navy revoked his order, and the gallant ship was saved.

In 1906 the Secretary of the Navy suggested that *OLD IRONSIDES* be used as a practice target for the guns of the navy, but the newspapers in all parts of the country raised such a loud and such a general protest that the suggestion was never carried into effect and the proud old ship today lies in the Boston Navy yard "housed over."—*Barbe's Famous Poems Explained*, p. 68. Published by Hinds, Noble and Eldredge, New York.

### OLD IRONSIDES.

Ay, tear her tattered ensign down!  
Long has it waved on high,  
And many an eye has danced to see  
That banner in the sky;  
Beneath it rang the battle shout,  
And burst the cannon's roar;—  
The meteor of the ocean air  
Shall sweep the clouds no more.

Her deck once red with heroes' blood,  
Where knelt the vanquished foe,  
When winds were hurrying o'er the flood  
And waves were white below,

No more shall feel the victor's tread,  
Or know the conquered knee;—  
The harpies of the shore shall pluck  
The eagle of the sea!

Oh, better that her shattered hulk  
Should sink beneath the wave;  
Her thunders shook the mighty deep,  
And there should be her grave;  
Nail to the mast her holy flag,  
Set every threadbare sail,  
Give her to the god of storms,  
The lightning and the gale!

*Oliver Wendell Holmes.*

## UNION AND LIBERTY

Flag of the heroes who left us their glory,  
 Borne through their battlefield's thunder  
 and flame,

Blazoned in song and illumined in story,  
 Wave o'er us all who inherit their fame!

Up with our banner bright,  
 Sprinkled with starry light,

Spread its fair emblems from mountain to  
 shore,

While through the sounding sky  
 Loud rings the Nation's cry—

**UNION AND LIBERTY! ONE EVERMORE!**

Light of our firmament, guide of our Nation,  
 Pride of her children and honored afar,  
 Let the wide beams of thy full constellation  
 Scatter each cloud that would darken a  
 star!

Empire unsceptred! what foe shall assail  
 thee,

Bearing the standard of liberty's van?  
 Think not the God of thy fathers shall fail  
 thee,  
 Striving with men for the birthright of  
 man!

Yet, if by madness and treachery blighted,  
 Dawns the dark hour when the sword  
 thou must draw;

Then with the arms of thy millions united,  
 Smite the bold traitors to Freedom and  
 Law!

Lord of the Universe! shield us and guide us,  
 Trusting Thee always, through shadow  
 and sun!

Thou hast united us, who shall divide us?  
 Keep us, O keep us the **MANY IN ONE!**  
 Up with the banner bright,

Sprinkled with starry light,  
 Spread its fair emblems from mountain to  
 shore,

While through the sounding sky  
 Loud rings the Nation's cry—

**UNION AND LIBERTY! ONE EVERMORE!**

--*O. W. Holmes.*

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67











